

# Combustible Dust

## Safety Meeting Packet

### Protect Your Workforce



Combustible dust is often an overlooked hazard and one that many employers may not even be aware of. When dust is released into the air, the environment may be just right that it results in a fire or explosion. This can seriously injure and even kill workers unaware of the danger. These explosions and fires can also cause considerable damage to property. It is critically important for employers to identify if their work place may be susceptible to a combustible dust.

### Controlling Combustible Dust

Companies working in agriculture products, materials containing carbon, chemicals, metals, or plastics are all at risk for dust explosions or fires. The table to the right provides a short list of industries that OSHA believes pose a danger for combustible dust. You can also get a comprehensive list on the OSHA website.

Controlling the dust is the first step in helping prevent a catastrophic accident from occurring. The three steps to controlling dust are:

- **Capture:** Use proper ventilation systems that will properly trap dust and prevent it from being exposed to an ignition source.
- **Contain:** Dust should be contained in the proper equipment systems or rooms set up to safely handle combustible dusts.
- **Clean:** Work areas and other places where dust may accumulate easily should always be kept clean. Being consistent with housekeeping is key to preventing a buildup of dust.



### Controlling Ignition Sources

- Make sure electrical components are wired correctly and safely. Equipment should be properly grounded. Limit and control build-up of static electricity.
- Limit and prevent exposure to open flames, sparks, or other ignition opportunities.
- Separate heated items from the designated dust collection areas.

#### Potential Combustible Dust Materials

▪ Cellulose	▪ Iron
▪ Corn	▪ Magnesium
▪ Egg whites	▪ Titanium
▪ Fertilizer	▪ Zirconium
▪ Flour	▪ Epoxy resin
▪ Powdered milk	▪ Melamine
▪ Spices	▪ Phenolic resin
▪ Starch	▪ Polyethylene
▪ Sugar	▪ Polypropylene
▪ Tobacco	▪ Biosolids
▪ Wood fiber	▪ Dyes
▪ Charcoal	▪ Pharmaceuticals
▪ Coal	▪ Rubber
▪ Lampblack	▪ Soap
▪ Lignite	▪ Sulfur
▪ Aluminum	

Source: <https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3878.pdf>

Additional information regarding combustible dust can be found at [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov). The following topics or articles are recommended resources:

- Combustible Dust Explosions
- Protecting Workers from Combustible Dust Explosion Hazards
- Hazard Communication Guidance for Combustible Dust



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## Safety Meeting Attendance Acknowledgement

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Department / Division \_\_\_\_\_  
 Meeting Date & Time \_\_\_\_\_  AM  PM  
 Meeting Location \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name & Title of Individual Conducting Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

### Key Meeting Discussion Points / Important Reminders:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### Internal Procedures Reviewed:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**By signing this document, you confirm your attendance at the meeting and acknowledge the issues addressed above!**

Employees in Attendance		
(Print): _____	(Print): _____	(Print): _____
(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____
(Print): _____	(Print): _____	(Print): _____
(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____
(Print): _____	(Print): _____	(Print): _____
(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____
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(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____
(Print): _____	(Print): _____	(Print): _____
(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____
(Print): _____	(Print): _____	(Print): _____
(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____

Employees not present: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggestions/Recommendations to improve workplace safety and health: \_\_\_\_\_

Actions Taken: \_\_\_\_\_

Manager/Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Disclaimer:**

The information provided above was assembled using multiple resources. However, these materials do not contain ALL the information available regarding the required safety standards under local, provincial, state, or federal law for your industry.

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